

December 2008 Monthly Parish Council Meeting Results (from the Sunday bulletin)

Our parish council held their regular monthly meeting this past Wednesday evening at 5:30 PM. In attendance at the meeting were: Harriet Rennie, president; Karen Kain, vice-president; Judy Weston, secretary; and council members John Batsakis, Helen Knapp, Stephanie Long, Theresa Patterson, and Doug Partlo. Attending in the gallery were: Roger Dunlap, Nikki Sobkowski, Martha Ealy and council member elect, Ray Ealy. Absent with apologies were: Mike Dennon, treasurer; and Bob Underwood, council member.

The council heard a bookstore report from Roger Dunlap and suggestions for relocating the bookstore from the church to our new community/religious education center. Also discussed was the establishment of a Paypal account that will permit parishioners to pay stewardship and make donations on the internet. The bookstore is not quite ready to be doing business on the internet so Mr. Dunlap suggested that we not put a link on for that yet.

Financial reports show a net surplus for November of \$117.30. On the year, through 8 December the Profit and Loss Statement shows a net deficit of \$4.26. This is fantastic! It means that we are roughly breaking even in our operations even though there has been significantly more money expended this year due to a full year of operations compared to a half year for 2007.

A religious education report was presented that discussed our upcoming pageant as well as the adult seminar scheduled for this Saturday. Looking forward Fr. Iakovos informed the council that he would likely cut back to one fifteen week course offering in the Spring semester and work on developing half day seminar "once offs" for our adult education programme.

A motion was made and passed to adopt the 2009 budget as presented by Doug Partlo. The budget is balanced with total expenditures and revenues of \$128,752. This represents a 6.25% increase over the 2008 budget. Also at this meeting Fr. Iakovos' base salary and housing allowance were set at \$48,048 for 2009. This represents a four percent increase over the 2008 rate. Mr. Partlo indicated that he was convinced that 2008 would come in close to or under the budget that we had been working to. The budget is available for inspection by stewards of the parish. Interested parties should contact Judy Weston, council secretary, for a copy.

Finally, Fr. Iakovos made a full report of activities in Petoskey as that work begins to gain momentum.